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## **Resolution Supporting a Referendum for Seven-Day Sales of Alcohol in the City of Gadsden**

**WHEREAS**, local economic development authorities have stated to the board of The Chamber, Gadsden/Etowah County a negative impact on the ability to recruit fine-dining restaurants that require access to seven days to sell all goods offered by said restaurant to the city of Gadsden; and

**WHEREAS**, local industrial development authorities have stated to the Board of The Chamber, Gadsden/Etowah County the marketability of a modern economy and community livability that recognizes seven-days of access to products and services being a strong development tool in recruitment of global industries; and

**WHEREAS**, Gadsden City Council members, in open council meetings, have stated on April 30, 2013 and October 29, 2013, support of a referendum for the constituents of Gadsden to establish access or restriction to a seventh day of alcohol sales; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of The Chamber, Gadsden/Etowah County recognizes these entities as authorities in their respective fields in regards to development; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama Code Section 28 – 3A-25(19) provides that, unless authorized by local legislative act, a person cannot buy, give away, sell or serve for consumption on or off the premises, or to drink or consume any alcoholic beverages in any café, lunchroom, restaurant, hotel dining room, or any other public place on Sunday after the hour of two o'clock A.M. ; and

**WHEREAS**, Alabama Code Section 20 – 3A-25(20) 21 provides that, unless authorized by local legislative act, a proprietor, keeper or operator of any cafe, lunchroom, restaurant, hotel dining room, or other public place cannot knowingly permit any person to give away, sell, or serve for consumption on or off the premises, or to drink or consume any alcoholic beverages on the premises of the cafe, lunchroom, restaurant, hotel dining room, or other public place on Sunday after the hour of two o'clock A.M.; and

**WHEREAS**, it is a known fact that the City of Gadsden is the only Class 4 municipality in the State of Alabama that is restricted from allowing retailers to sell alcohol in any manner on Sundays; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the determination of the Board of Directors of The Chamber, Gadsden/Etowah County that citizens of the City of Gadsden should be granted the right to vote as they deem appropriate on a local act or general act of local application regarding the issue of seven-day sales of alcohol; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors of The Chamber, Gadsden/Etowah County supports the right of citizens of the City of Gadsden to receive a referendum on a local issue through local act or general act of local application, specifically pertaining to a seventh day of alcohol sales.

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors of The Chamber, Gadsden/Etowah County urges citizens to vote as they each individually deem appropriate for the desire of direction for their community.

Approved in Gadsden, Alabama on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2013.